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Message Text

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PAGE 01 PARIS 00638 01 OF 02 101018Z
ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 HA-05 AID-05 CEQ-01 CIAE-00 SOE-02
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E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: SENV, FR
SUBJECT: LET A HUNDRED MEASURES BLOOM

1. BEGIN SUMMARY. ENVIRONMENT AND CULTURE MINISTER MICHEL D'ORNANO ANNOUNCED A HUNDRED MEASURES TO IMPROVE THE QUALITY OF LIFE OF THE FRENCH PEOPLE AND A REORGANIZATION OF HIS MINISTRY. THE COMPLETE DETAILS OF THESE MEASURES, AND OF THE REORGANIZATION, ARE TO BE ANNOUNCED IN ANOTHER TWO WEEKS. SOME EMBASSY SOURCES NOTE THAT NO ADDITIONAL FUNDING IS INVOLVED AND CHARACTERIZE THE INITIATIVE AS POLITICAL WINDOW-DRESSING. END SUMMARY.

2. CULTURE AND ENVIRONMENT MINISTER MICHEL D'ORNANO ANNOUNCED THE MAIN OUTLINES OF THE "CHARTER FOR THE QUALITY OF LIFE" FOLLOWING THE JANUARY 4 COUNCIL OF MINISTERS MEETING. PRESIDENT GISCARD ANNOUNCED THAT THIS PROGRAM'S PURPOSE IS TO "REDUCE ECOLOGICAL INEQUALITIES AND CREATE A HAPPY ENVIRONMENT FOR EVERYONE, CONTRIBUTING IN THIS WAY TO THE DEVELOPMENT OF A NEW WAY OF LIVING IN FRANCE." THE PROGRAM'S THREE OBJECTIVES ARE TO IMPROVE THE QUALITY OF LIFE, TO MAKE IT
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PAGE 02 PARIS 00638 01 OF 02 101018Z

POSSIBLE FOR CITIZENS TO LIVE BETTER TOGETHER, AND TO FACILITATE THE BLOOMING OF THE HUMAN PERSONALITY. THIS CHARTER WAS PREPARED DURING A SERIES OF MEETINGS BETWEEN GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS AND CITIZENS' ASSOCIATIONS CONCERNED WITH THE ENVIRONMENT. WITHIN THE FRAMEWORK OF IMPROVING THE QUALITY OF LIFE, THE MEASURES SPECIFICALLY ANNOUNCED ARE SAID TO INCLUDE BUT NOT

Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014

Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014

BE LIMITED TO STATE SUPPORT FOR PARKS, A 5-YEAR PROGRAM FOR FINANCING WATER CLEANUP, A BILL AGAINST NOISE, THE PURCHASE OF 12,000 HECTARES OF LANDS ON THE COAST, AND THE EQUIPMENT OF HOUSES WITH NEW ENERGIES,

MAINLY SOLAR.

3. THE NOT VERY PRECISE GUIDELINES OF LIVING BETTER TOGETHER INCLUDE CEDING CERTAIN GOVERNMENT HELD LANDS TO LOCAL GOVERNMENT UNITS, CONTRACTING SOME ENVIRONMENT WORK OUT TO ASSOCIATIONS, INCREASING THE NUMBER OF WOMEN IN QUALITY OF LIFE COMMISSIONS, AND PUBLIC HEARINGS ON SIGNIFICANT CONSTRUCTION PROJECTS.

4. AMONG MEASURES TO FURTHER DEFINE THE BLOSSOMING OF THE HUMAN PERSONALITY, D'ORNANO CITED SIGNING AGREEMENTS BETWEEN UNIONS AND EMPLOYERS TO IMPROVE WORKING CONDITIONS, VARYING WORK HOURS, AND PAYING GREATER ATTENTION TO LEISURE-TIME ACTIVITIES.

5. THE REORGANIZATION OF THE ENVIRONMENTAL PART OF HIS MINISTRY WILL LEAVE INTACT TWO "DELEGATIONS" (ROUGHLY: BUREAUS) THOSE OF POLLUTIONS AND NUISANCES (THE MAIN EPA CONTACT) AND PROTECTION OF NATURE,

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PAGE 03 PARIS 00638 01 OF 02 101018Z

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PAGE 01 PARIS 00638 02 OF 02 101017Z
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Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014

Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014

WHICH WILL NOW BE CHARGED WITH THE FRENCH NATIONAL PARKS PROGRAM. A THIRD DELEGATION IS TO BE ESTABLISHED, THAT OF THE QUALITY OF LIFE, WHOSE HEAD IS TO BE NAMED BEFORE THE END OF JANUARY. THIS LATTER DELEGATION WILL HAVE REPORTING TO IT THE MISSION FOR THE RURAL AND URBAN ENVIRONMENT, THE SECRETARIAT OF THE ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE, THE SERVICE FOR THE STUDY OF TOURISM, AND THE GROUP FOR THE MANAGEMENT OF TIME. ALSO TO BE CREATED, BEGINNING IN THE L979 CALENDAR AND FISCAL YEAR, IS AN ENVIRONMENT/BUDGET ENVELOPE. THIS IS TO BE AN OFFICIAL LISTING OF ALL THE BUDGET ITEMS THROUGHOUT THE SEVERAL MINISTRIES OF PROJECTS OFFICIALLY DEEMED TO BE ENVIRONMENTAL, ALONG THE LINES OF THE "RESEARCH ENVELOPE."

6. COMMENT: MUCH OF THESE MEASURES HAVE ALREADY BEEN ANNOUNCED PREVIOUSLY AND ELSEWHERE, SUCH AS GOF SUPPORT FOR HEATING HOMES WITH SOLAR ENERGY AND SINCE

THERE ARE NO NEW FUNDS ALLOCATED TO THESE ENVIRON-
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MENTAL PURPOSES, WE SEE THESE MEASURES PRIMARILY AS PART OF THE CAMPAIGN FOR THE MARCH, 1978 ELECTIONS.
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EO Systematic Review
20 Mar 2014
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